

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 8-13, and 18-23 were pending in the application. Claims 1, 9, 11, 19 and 21-22 have been amended. Claim 28 has been added. Claim 3 has been canceled. Support for the amendments can be found in Applicant's disclosure at page 4, first, third and fourth paragraphs, and page 5, first paragraph. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC §103

The Office Action rejected claims 1-3, 8, 10-13, 18, and 20-21 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marmor (US 6601108) in view of Sekiguchi (US 6185604).

Claim 1, as amended, is not unpatentable over Marmor in view of Sekiguchi.

Page 4 of the Office Action states: "Marmor fails to specifically disclose wherein said companion computing device, without conversion from character codes to graphic elements, presents the bitmap representation as a full screen image of the requested message on said display device." This admitted deficiency in Marmor is not addressed by Sekiguchi. Sekiguchi's email/fax machine performs format conversion between email and fax and does not perform language conversion in a second machine at the request of a first machine, over a bi-directional link. Sekiguchi provides no functionality for language translation at all, therefore Sekiguchi's bitmap representation, by necessity, is displayed in the same language as originally

provided.

Further, in order for Sekiguchi to present his bitmap representation, Sekiguchi requires multiple transmission links, including a link to the public switched telephone network (Col. 15, lines 45-50) and three different components: 1) the computer sending the email; 2) the email/fax machine; and 3) the fax machine. See Sekiguchi, col. 6, lines 44-62:

The flow of information from the personal computer 1-5 to a Fukuoka sales office is described below.

An e-mail to a Fukuoka sales office, produced by the personal computer 1-5, is transferred to the e-mail server 1-10 as follows. The e-mail is transferred, according to the e-mail transfer protocol SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol recommended by IETF), via the remote router 1-4 and further via the private line 1-6, to the post office "fff" 12-2 provided in the storage device of the e-mail server 1-10 at the Fukuoka branch office wherein the post office "fff" 12-2 is used to distribute e-mails to sales offices in Fukuoka city. After that, the e-mail/facsimile machine 1-11 gets the e-mail from the above post office as indicated by an arrow 1-15. The e-mail/facsimile machine 1-11 converts the e-mail data to image data. The e-mail/facsimile machine 1-11 then makes a call to the facsimile destination "093-222-333" and sends the resultant image data to a facsimile machine 1-13 as indicated by an arrow 1-16. The facsimile transmission is performed in accordance with the facsimile communication protocol T.30 recommended by ITU-T.

Regarding claims 2-3, 12-13, and 22:

Claim 2 is not unpatentable over Marmor and Sekiguchi because claim 2 is dependent on claim 1 and claim 1, as amended, is patentable over Marmor in view of Sekiguchi.

Claim 3 has been canceled and reintroduced as new claim 28, introducing a database into the system.

Claims 12 and 13 are method counterparts to claims 2 and 3 and are patentable over Marmor and Sekiguchi for the reasons as discussed above for claims 2 and 3.

Claim 22 is a storage medium counterpart for claim 2 and it is also patentable for the reasons as discussed above for claim 2.

Claims 11 and 21 are method and storage medium counterparts, respectively, of claim 1 and are patentable over Marmor and Sekiguchi for the same reasons as discussed above.

Regarding claims 8, 18, and 23:

The Office Action at page 4 concedes that Marmor does not disclose the limitation of the companion device storing the bitmap representation for later use. This deficiency is not addressed by Sekiguchi. Claim 8 must be viewed as a limitation to independent claim 1 which is not taught by Sekiguchi.

Claims 10 and 20 are dependent on claims 1 and 11, respectively, and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 11 are patentable.

The Office Action rejected claims 9 and 19 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marmor in view of Sekiguchi, and further in view of Official Notice.

Claims 9 and 19 are dependent on claims 1 and 11, respectively, and as such, are patentable for at least the same reasons (as discussed above) that claims 1 and 11 are patentable.

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For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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